

**BOROUGH OF WIND GAP
29 MECHANIC STREET
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The Council meeting of the Borough of Wind Gap on Tuesday, December 18, 2007, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Council President Kerry Gassler at which time he reminded those present that the meeting was being recorded. In attendance were Councilpersons: Jon Faust, Nathan Hinton, George Hinton, Scott Parsons and Tony Curcio. Also in attendance were Mayor Mitchell D. Mogilski, Sr., Borough Solicitor Ronold Karasek and Borough Administrator Louise Firestone. Absent from the meeting was Councilman Todd Beil.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one appeared before Council at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. EMS – Nathan Hinton had nothing to report.
2. Police – George Hinton had nothing to report.
3. Streets – George Hinton reported that the workers have done normal snow removal after the recent snow falls. The street department have picked up piles of leaves with the front loader.
4. Zoning – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.
5. Planning – Todd Beil was absent.
6. Parks – Nathan Hinton had nothing to report.
7. Fire Company – Jon Faust reported 11 calls in November 2007 for a total of 145 year to date. Jon stated that the Fire Company passed a motion at their meeting last night to approach the Borough regarding Knox Boxes on commercial property buildings. Jon asked if an ordinance must be enacted by the Borough? The Fire Company is planning on purchasing a box for \$750 to be installed on an emergency fire unit. The boxes that are to be installed on the business sell for a price of \$200. Tony suggested a once a year inspection. Jon stated that they did not discuss specifics yet. Kerry asked how the boxes would be opened? Jon explained that if the Fire Company responds to a fire call at a commercial property, they ask County to open the Knox Box on the fire unit, the key on the fire truck will be keyed for all the boxes in the Borough, the firemen open the Knox Box on the building which will contain a key to assess the building. This will be used when an owner of the business or an owner cannot be contacted, but the building is in danger. Jon has examples of ordinances for Ron Karasek to review. Scott stated that a lot of companies in the Borough would be agreeable without an ordinance being enacted. It is the Fire Company's intention to make the request for compliance in 2008, but make it mandatory in 2009. Council thought it might be a good idea to just start asking to have them installed without an ordinance and see how much compliance they receive. Jon will continue to research this topic and keep Council informed.

8. Sewer Authority – Scott Parsons had nothing to report.
9. 911 – Tony Curcio had nothing to report.
10. Mayor's Report. Mayor Mogilski stated that the Police report was distributed and asked for questions. There were no questions. The Police did the Buckle Up Program over Thanksgiving Day weekend, but the weather did not allow for high volume. There will be more funds available in the spring. The license fees collected for 2007 was \$2,550.

APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

On motion by Tony Curcio to approve the year-end expenses in the amount of \$8,565.07 and seconded by Jon Faust. Discussion regarding an annual fee for the credit card used by the Borough in the amount of \$30. Council suggested asking Lafayette Ambassador Bank to waive the fee or shop for another credit card.

Amended motion by Tony Curcio to approve the expenses less the \$30 and seconded by Jon Faust. Roll call vote taken. In favor: T. Curcio, J. Faust, K. Gassler, G. Hinton, S. Parsons. Opposed: N. Hinton. Motion carried with a vote of 5-1.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Capital Reserve Fund Transfers.

On motion by Tony Curcio to transfer \$122,950.99 to Capital Reserve and seconded by George Hinton. The exact amount will depend on exact balances once all necessary 2007 expenses have been paid. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Police Chief's Contract

George reported that Ron Karasek reviewed the proposed contract. The committee agreed with the contents of the contract. Kerry asked if Council reviewed the contract? Tony asked what changes were made to the contract? George replied that the increase would be \$.55 per hour for the next three years and the pension. Kerry requested that Council receive a copy of the contract. The Mayor asked the committee what was done with the request to include work schedule, day shift in his contract? George stated that the committee is recommending that be in the contract. The Mayor asked Ron Karasek if that could be done since the Borough Code states that the Mayor sets their schedules? Ron replied that if this does not meet with the Mayor's approval then obviously that issue would have to be re-addressed. The Mayor stated that he does not agree with that because there needs to be flexibility. He said that right now the Chief does the scheduling and any place that the Mayor wants an officer the Chief makes sure he gets there and he would like to keep it that way. The Mayor agreed that the Chief should be there during the day, but if there is a time when the Borough does need someone in the evenings, they should be asked to do it. They should not be able to say it is in my contract, I don't have to do it. The Mayor stated that the Chief wants it in his contract for that reason and the Mayor does not agree that it is a good reason. George explained that the committee felt the Chief needs to be here during the day and that is when he should be here to work. The Mayor stated that he did the numbers and if Borough allows the Chief to be locked into Monday through Friday, some officers could end up possibly working seven days in a row. George added that the current Chief does and will continue to work weekends, holidays or whatever to make sure those shifts are worked. The Chief is asking to work during the day during normal business hours because that is when things happen that as Chief need his attention. The Mayor suggested the contract specify paid time off in hours, some officers work ten hour shifts and other work eight hour shifts. This topic will be tabled until the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Enactment Ordinance 461 – 2008 Real Estate Tax.

On motion by Jon Faust to approve Enact Ordinance 461 setting the 2008 Real Estate Tax at 9.25 mills and seconded by Kerry Gassler. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried unanimously.

On motion by Tony Curcio to adjourn the meeting of December 18, 2007. The meeting of December 18, 2007 adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Louise Firestone, Borough Administrator